



Kentucky Geologists

Volume 12 Issue 1

May 2010

Mission

The mission of the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is to regulate the public practice of geology in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth from negligent, incompetent, or fraudulent practices.

Board

Larry Rhodes, *Chair*
Gil Cumbee, *Vice-chair*
Marsha L. Taylor Meyer
Stephen Wyatt, *Public-at-large*
James Cobb, *State Geologist*,
Ex-Officio

Kentucky Division of Occupations & Professions

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Lucie Duvall,
Board Administrator

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<http://www.bpg.ky.gov/>

As an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is solely funded by applicants and credential holders and receives no tax dollars.

Letter to Kentucky Professional Geologists

Kentucky has a healthy and growing geology profession with close to 1,500 registered professionals of whom over 450 live within the state. In 1992, the original registration bill passed the Kentucky General Assembly and was signed into law by Governor Brereton Jones. In the 18 years since the law has been in force, few changes to KRS 322A have been made, with the exception of the provisions for "geologist-in-training."

This year, after more than a year of fact finding, meetings, and discussions, the Board took the step of introducing changes to KRS 322A. These changes included suggestions by practicing geologists related to public health and safety and suggestions by the Board itself related to operational efficiency. The suggested changes related to public health and safety included the following:

- (1) to establish a maximum fine of \$1,000 for violation of KRS 322A;
- (2) to establish continuing education requirements for geologists to renew their registration; and
- (3) to eliminate the current exemption from registration for geologists employed by state and local government agencies.

The suggested changes related to Board operational efficiency were as follows:

- (1) to change the current registration renewal cycle to biennial (every other year); and
- (2) to allow the state geologist to appoint a designee to attend Board meetings in his or her absence.

If renewal notices were on an every other year basis, administrative paperwork and costs would be reduced. The state geologist is a permanent member of the Board, however is not always able to attend Board meetings. A designee would permit the Board to continue its work in his or her absence. The Board voted unanimously in favor of all of the above changes, which would put Kentucky's geologist registration program in line with requirements of other professional licensing organizations in the state.

Sponsors in the Kentucky General Assembly were identified to get the bill moving through the House and Senate. The proposed changes to KRS 322A became House Bill 286 and Senate Bill 46. HB 286 was passed in committee and was overwhelmingly approved by the House. It then went to committee in the Senate. Unfortunately, time ran out in this

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Calendar

Board Meetings

Tentative 2010 Schedule

2010

June 7
August 2
October 4
December 6

Exam dates

October 1, 2010

Application deadlines

August 10, 2010

Time: 1:30 p.m. (ET)

Location:

Div. of Occupations & Professions
911 Leawood Drive
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

ASBOG 2010 Annual Meeting

November 4 – 6
St. Louis, MO

Note: Dates are subject to change. Please call the Board office if you plan to attend.

Welcome New Registrants!

Professional Geologists

James DeCinque (KY)

Randall L. Paylor (KY)

John Pyles (KY)

Lewis Carlton Rhodes, Jr.
(KY)

Gregory Secrist (KY)

Nathaniel S. Wanner (OH)

Mark Cameron White (SC)

Board Actions

Complaint review report

No new complaints have been adjudicated since those reported in the June 2009 newsletter.

Board legal actions

The Board has taken no legal actions since those reported in the June 2009 newsletter.

Fall ASBOG exam results

Fundamentals of Geology

Of the 11 who sat for the exam, five passed.

Practice of Geology

Of the nine who sat for the exam, three passed.

Renewals

In the future registrants will receive postcard reminders about renewals and will be offered the option to renew via the Web site or to contact the Board office to obtain a paper copy of the renewal form.

Our Web address

<http://www.bpg.ky.gov>

Our Website has recently been improved. Please visit us online at our new location: <http://www.bpg.ky.gov>.

The Kentucky Division of Occupations and Professions also has a new Web address: <http://www.dop.ky.gov>.



Geologists in Training

There are no new Geologists in Training to report at this time.

Letter to Kentucky Professional Geologists

Continued from page 1

General Assembly before it could come to a vote.

The Board is asking geologists as well as citizens of the Commonwealth to provide their opinions concerning the proposed changes to the registration law. To facilitate that process, the Board invites and encourages you to complete and return the questionnaire found on page 4 of this newsletter. Your responses will help us as we prepare for the next General Assembly. **We look forward to hearing from you!**

Sincerely,

The Board of Registration for Professional
Geologists

Larry R. Rhodes, Chair

Gil Cumbee, Vice-chair

Marsha L. Taylor Meyer

Stephen R. Wyatt, Public-at-large

Jim Cobb, State Geologist, Ex-officio member

Indiana geologists request continuing education requirement

In a letter dated March 11, 2010, the Professional Geologists of Indiana (PGI) requested that the Indiana Licensure Board seek changes to the current statute governing the licensure of geology in Indiana. The letter stated that amendments were being suggested in “an effort to keep the licensure of geology in Indiana both up to date with current professional standards and to keep geologists practicing in the State of Indiana on equal footing with other states in the Midwest.”

The letter went on to propose the enactment of “a mandatory continuing education requirement to maintain professional licensure as has been done by most other professions within Indiana.” The requirement sought by the PGI would “allow flexibility in course work to accommodate professionals working in academics, government, and industry ... This revision would help ensure that professionals licensed in Indiana remain proficient in geology and keep abreast of new developments in the science.”

Kentucky Board of Registration panel discussion at KGS 50th Annual Seminar

A panel composed of members of the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists will answer questions about proposed changes to the registration law at the KGS 50th Annual Seminar, Friday, May 14th over the lunch hour. To attend this open discussion for the geology profession, please RSVP to Mike Lynch (859) 323-0561 or mike.lynch@uky.edu. About the seminar: <http://www.uky.edu/KGS/announce/annualSeminar2010.pdf>

Donald C. Haney Distinguished Lecturer David Wunsch, NH State Geologist

New Hampshire State Geologist David Wunsch, formerly with the Water Resources Section at the Kentucky Geological Survey, gave the annual Donald C. Haney Distinguished Lecture at KGS on the evening of April 7. He spoke about the creation of a national groundwater monitoring network. Wunsch, who spent 15 years with KGS, is currently the president of the Association of American State Geologists and is active with the National Groundwater Association. During his lecture, he spoke of the need for groundwater monitoring and how a national network could operate. In 1999, Wunsch was named the Outstanding Kentucky Geologist by the Kentucky Chapter of the American Institute of Professional Geologists. In 1998–99, he served as the American Geological Institute's Congressional Science Fellow, as an advisor to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.



David Wunsch, State Geologist of New Hampshire

Questionnaire regarding proposed changes to KRS 322A

Name _____

Kentucky PG Registration Number _____

Please answer **Yes** or **No** to each of the following questions. We welcome your constructive comments.

1. Do you favor the establishment of a maximum fine of \$1,000 for violation of KRS 322A?

Yes _____ No _____

Comment:

2. Do you favor establishment of continuing education (CE) requirements for registration renewal? If passed, the specifics of CE requirements (e.g., eligible activities, number of credits, requirements based on years of professional practice) would later be specified in administrative regulations.

Yes _____ No _____

Comment:

3. Do you favor elimination of the current exemption from registration for geologists employed by state and local government agencies?

Yes _____ No _____

Comment:

4. Do you favor changing the registration renewal cycle from annual to biennial?

Yes _____ No _____

Comment:

5. Do you favor allowing the state geologist, a permanent member of the board, to appoint a person to attend board meetings on his or her behalf?

Yes _____ No _____

Comment:

Please submit completed questionnaires to Lucie Duvall, Board Administrator at the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, P.O. Box 1360, Frankfort, KY 40602, **or** lucie.duvall@ky.gov, **or** fax to 502-696-4962. **Or** the questionnaire can be completed online at the Board's Website: <http://www.bpg.ky.gov>.

Number of Kentucky registrants

Professional Geologists	1,482
Geologists in Training	17

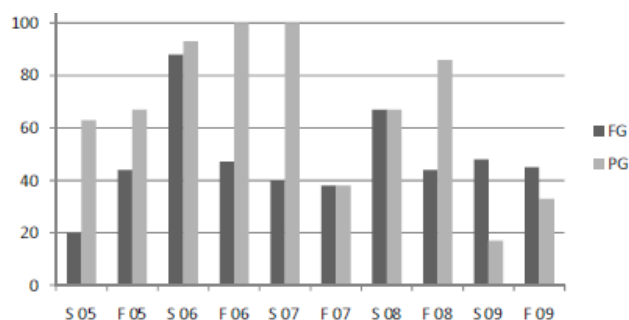
Kentucky registered geologists: Where do they live?

As of May 2010, of the 1,482 geologists registered in Kentucky, 454 called Kentucky home. Another 488 registrants were living in adjacent states as follows: Illinois (35), Indiana (78), Missouri (21), Tennessee (129), Ohio (131), Virginia (41), and West Virginia (53).

The remaining 540 registrants were living in the following nonadjacent states or Canada: Pennsylvania (74), Florida (57), Georgia (48), Texas (48), New Jersey (24), Michigan (23), North Carolina (21), California (20), Colorado (20), Alabama (18), South Carolina (17), New York (16), Maryland (13), New Mexico (13), Oklahoma (13), New Hampshire (11), Louisiana (10), Nevada (10), Massachusetts (9), Wisconsin (9), Arizona (8), Kansas (8), Connecticut (6), Utah (5), Arkansas (4), Hawaii (4), Idaho (4), Mississippi (4), Washington (4), Alaska (2), Delaware (2), Minnesota (2), Montana (2), North Dakota (2), Wyoming (2), Puerto Rico (2), and one each from Washington DC, Iowa, Maine, South Dakota, and Canada.

Kentucky ASBOG exam pass rates: a 5-year snapshot

Pass rates for the ASBOG exam administered in Kentucky follow for the years 2005 through 2009.



Upcoming geology meetings

14 May, 2010. **KGS Annual Seminar: Applying New Technologies in Kentucky Geoscience**, KGS Well Sample and Core Library, Lexington, KY
<http://www.uky.edu/KGS/announce/annualSeminar2010.pdf>

13–18 June 2010. **Goldschmidt: Earth Energy and the Environment**, Knoxville, TN. Geochemical Society and the European Association of Geochemistry.
<http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/exhibitionInvitation>

16–18 June 2010. **Kentucky Oil & Gas Association (KOGA) 74th Annual Meeting**, Louisville, KY.
<http://www.kyoilgas.org/pages/posts/kentucky-oil--gas-association-74th-annual-meeting22.php>

10–12 August 2010. **Carbon Capture and Sequestration: New Developments and Applications, Case Studies, Lessons Learned**, Denver, CO. AAPG Geoscience Technology Workshop
http://www.aapg.org/gtw/CarbonCapture_Sequestration/index.cfm

3–5 August 2010. **10th Annual Technical Forum: Geohazards Impacting Transportation in the Appalachian Region**, Columbus, OH.
<http://www.marshall.edu/cegas/geohazards/>

12–15 September 2010. **American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) 2010 International Conference & Exhibition**, Calgary, AB, Canada
<http://www.aapg.org/calgary/>

16 September 2010. **KOGA Western Kentucky Meeting**, Evansville, IN.
<http://www.kyoilgas.org/pages/posts/koga-western-kentucky-meeting27.php>

25–29 September 2010. **Eastern Section AAPG Meeting**, Kalamazoo, MI
<http://karl.nrcce.wvu.edu/esaapg/ESmeet.html>

31 October – 3 November 2010. **GSA Annual Meeting**, Denver, CO.
<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2010/index.htm>

Kentucky Geologists is published semiannually by the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. The publication features topics relevant to the ethical practice of geology in the Commonwealth. Suggestions for the newsletter should be directed to Judith Hower, Communications Specialist, Kentucky Geological Survey, 228 Mining & Mineral Resources Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington KY 40506-0107, (859) 277-0777; FAX (859) 257-1147 <judith.hower@uky.edu>.



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